

In The Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A skirting board comprising:

a base profile engaged to a wall and comprising a receiving portion and a deflecting arm; and

a guard profile, the guard profile comprising a protruding portion that interfaces with the receiving portion of the base profile and a curved portion;

wherein the guard profile combines with the base profile to provide at least one open space, wherein the at least one open space is defined by the base profile, the guard profile and the wall; and

wherein the deflecting arm and the curved portion combine to provide a surface used to finish a corner produced by a floor and the wall.
2. (original) The skirting board of Claim 1, wherein the receiving portion comprises at least one surface adapted to receive the guard profile.
3. (original) The skirting board of Claim 2, wherein the protruding portion comprises at least one interface portion adapted to interface with one oblique surface.
4. (currently amended) The skirting board of claim 3, wherein the at least one open space is adapted to receive a cable.
5. (original) The skirting board of Claim 3, wherein the base profile further comprises a plurality of openings, for attachment of the base profile to the wall.
6. (currently amended) A skirting board comprising:

a base profile engaged to a wall and comprising a first arm and a receiving portion having a first and a second oblique surface, wherein the cross-section of the receiving portion is trapezoidal in shape;

a ledge formed on the base profile; ~~and~~

a guard profile fastened within the base profile by a pair of interface protrusions, the guard profile comprising a second arm;

a first open space adapted to receive a wire, wherein the first open space is defined by the base profile, the guard profile and the wall; and

a second open space adapted to receive a wire, wherein the second open space is defined by the base profile, the wall and a floor adjacent to the wall;

wherein the guard profile at least partially rests on the ledge when the guard profile is fastened to the base profile; and

wherein the first arm and the second arm cooperate to provide a surface used to finish a corner produced by a floor and a wall.

7. (currently amended) The skirting board of claim 6, wherein the first arm is formed such that it arches away from the wall.

8. (previously presented) The skirting board of claim 6, wherein the base profile is provided with a series of ports.

9. (currently amended) A skirting board system comprising:

a plurality of base profiles, each base profile selectively engagable to a wall and comprising a receiving portion;

a plurality of guard profiles, each guard profile comprising a protruding portion that interfaces with the receiving portion of the base profiles;

at least one inward-projecting end cap comprising a first plurality of interface protrusions that engage a base profile to selectively attach the at least one inward-projecting end cap with the base profile, wherein the at least one inward-projecting end cap is shaped to fit completely over a base profile; and

at least one outward-projecting end cap comprising a second plurality of interface protrusions that engage a base profile to selectively attach the at least one outward-projecting end cap with the base profile; wherein the at least one outward-projecting end cap is shaped to fit completely over a base profile;

a first open space adapted to receive a wire, the first open space comprising four sides, wherein the first side comprises the wall, the second side is formed opposite the first side and comprises a first portion of the plurality of guard profiles, the third side is formed between the first and second sides and comprises the receiving portions of the plurality of guard profiles, and the fourth side is formed opposite the third side and comprises a second portion of the plurality of guard profiles; and

a second open space adapted to receive a wire, the second open space comprising four sides, wherein the first side comprises the wall, the second side is formed opposite the first side and comprises a first portion of the plurality of base profiles, the third side comprises a floor adjoining the wall, and the fourth side is formed opposite the floor and comprises the receiving portions of the plurality of base profiles.

10. (previously presented) The skirting system of Claim 9, further comprising a first arm formed on each of the base profiles and a second arm formed on each of the guard profiles, wherein the first arm arches away from the wall, and the second arm arches toward the wall.

11. (previously presented) The skirting system of Claim 9, wherein the at least one inward-projecting end cap comprises a first wall and a second wall, wherein the first wall is generally perpendicular to the second wall.

12. (previously presented) The skirting system of claim 9, wherein the at least one outward-projecting end cap comprises a first wall and a second wall, wherein the first wall is generally perpendicular to the second wall.

13. (new) The skirting board of claim 1, further comprising a second open space adapted to receive a cable, wherein the second open space is defined by the base profile, the wall and the floor.